

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-30 and 33 are pending in this application. Claims 5 and 22 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 6, 7, 21, 26, 28-30 and 33 have been amended. These amendments add no new matter to the application. Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

### ***Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103***

Claims 1-2 and 21 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent No. 5,752,172 to Matero, (hereinafter “Matero”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0198261 to Xiong, (hereinafter “Xiong”).

Applicants respectfully traverse to the extent that the rejection is applicable to the claims as now presented.

Claims 3, 26, 27 and 30 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Matero in view of Xiong and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,614,309 to Pehlke, (hereinafter “Pehlke”).

Applicants respectfully traverse to the extent that the rejection is applicable to the claims as now presented.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Matero in view of Xiong and further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0021687 to Toki, et al., (hereinafter “Toki”).

Applicants respectfully traverse to the extent that the rejection is applicable to the claims as now presented.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 5-7, 22-25, 28-29 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Thank you for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5-7, 22-25, 28-29 and 33. We have cancelled claims 5 and 22. We have incorporated the allowable features of dependent claims 5 and 22 into independent claims 1 and 21, respectively, making them now allowable.

Application No. 10/529,521  
Amendment dated March 11, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of September 11, 2007

### **CONCLUSION**

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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